



Indiana Department of Education
Evaluation of the Common Core State Standards
(CCSS)

June 29, 2013

Authority for this Evaluation

In pertinent part, Section 13 of House Enrolled Act 1427 requires the Indiana Department of Education to do the following:

(e) Before July 1, 2013, the department shall provide a written evaluation of the common core standards to the:

(1) governor;

(2) legislative council;

(3) state board; and

(4) chairperson of the legislative study committee established in subsection (f).

The evaluation must be provided in an electronic format as provided under IC 5-14-6.

The submission of this electronic document to the aforementioned parties is intended to satisfy this requirement.

Current Reality

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), the State Board of Education (SBOE), and the Indiana General Assembly have affirmed that Indiana's standards must be deemed college and career ready. House Enrolled Act 1427(c) requires members of the State Board of Education to "...adopt college and career ready educational standards..." by July 1, 2014. That subsection of law also specifies that the new standards "...must meet national and international benchmarks for college and career readiness standards and be aligned with postsecondary educational expectations."

According to the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, nearly 1/3 of all 2011 high school graduates attending postsecondary schools in Indiana required costly remediation.¹

In 2004, Indiana University's Center for Evaluation & Education Policy issued a brief highlighting the need for high school redesign to ensure students are academically prepared for the workforce as well as for college level academic content.²

We know that Indiana's jobs of today and tomorrow require postsecondary education and training more than ever. Nearly two-thirds of all new jobs require at least some postsecondary education.³ In the past, workers could obtain high paying jobs without higher education. This has become more of an exception than a rule. Without sufficient preparation, Hoosier students will struggle to access good jobs in the increasingly competitive global economy. Indiana's international standing in its percentage of adults aged 25-64 possessing an Associate degree or higher, leaves plenty room for growth. Only 33 percent of our population holds a two-year degree or more.

¹ Indiana Commission for Higher Education, "Indiana College Readiness Report" (2013).

<http://www.in.gov/che/files/StateofIndiana.pdf>

² http://ceep.indiana.edu/projects/PDF/Re-designing_HS_PB.pdf.

³ Indiana Commission for Higher Education "Reaching Higher Overview" http://www.in.gov/che/files/2012_RHAM_8_23_12.pdf.

Key Definitions

- **Standards** - Standards specify what students across the state should know and be able to demonstrate at each grade level. Standards are ultimately recommended by the Indiana Education Roundtable and adopted by the Indiana State Board of Education. *Standards do not dictate how teachers teach.*
- **Curriculum** – Curriculum is a prescribed learning plan toward educational goals that includes instructional content, resources and materials, and a means by which to measure attainment.. Curriculum is determined locally by a corporation or school.
- **Instruction** – Instruction is the act, practice, or process of structured knowledge transfer from teacher to student. Instruction is determined locally at the corporation or school level. *Instruction is how teachers teach.*
- **College- and Career-Ready Standards** - The U.S. Department of Education defines college- and career-ready standards as "Content standards for kindergarten through 12th grade that build towards college- and career-ready graduation requirements...by the time of high school graduation. A State's college- and career-ready standards must be either (1) standards that are common to a significant number of States; or (2) standards that are approved by a State network of institutions of higher education, which must certify that students who meet the standards will not need remedial course work at the postsecondary level."

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are a particular set of K-12 standards in English/language arts and mathematics resulting from the Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSSI). The CCSS are copyrighted. They delineate what students should know at each grade level, and they describe skills students must acquire to stay on course each year for college and career readiness.

Indiana joined the CCSSI in June of 2009, launching the IDOE's 19-month analysis of the standards with the help of educators across the state. Upon review and recommendation by the Indiana Education Roundtable, the State Board of Education officially adopted the Common Core State Standards in English/language arts, literacy and mathematics as Indiana's standards in August of 2010.

The U.S. Department of Education has deemed the CCSS to be college and career ready. The federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2001 (No Child Left Behind) includes "standards" (Sec. 1111, a) as a component of the State Plan, under which are subject to secretarial approval and peer review (Sec. 1111, e).

Adoption of the Common Core State Standards: Indiana's Process

In November of 2007, discussions on the virtues of common college- and career-ready standards began between state education leaders at the Annual Policy Forum for the Council for Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). With the help of the country's leading national experts and educators in the content areas of English/language arts and literacy and mathematics, CCSSO and the National Governor's Association (NGA) coordinated a multi-state effort formally known as the Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSSI). The objective of this multi-state initiative was to identify what students should know and demonstrate to be deemed college and career ready.

This work culminated in the release of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for mathematics and English/language arts and literacy in 2010. Since then, 45 states (including Indiana), the District of Columbia, and three territories have adopted the standards. The Common Core State Standards in these subjects are currently Indiana's standards, having been reviewed and recommended by the Indiana Education Roundtable and formally adopted by the Indiana State Board of Education in August of 2010. As a set of standards – not a curriculum – corporations and schools are left to determine locally what curriculum, instruction, and instructional materials to use in teaching the CCSS.

All teachers are teaching CCSS, and teachers in grades 2-12 are also teaching some identified Indiana Academic Standards in order to assure alignment of standards with our ISTEP+ assessment during a period of transition. Schools across Indiana began implementing the CCSS in kindergarten classrooms during the 2011-2012 school year. Since then, educators and administrators have worked toward teaching only CCSS in these subjects in all grades by the 2014-2015 school year.

Schools have made investments in textbooks, electronic content, and instructional materials aligned to the CCSS. Teachers and administrators have acquired professional development on the new standards, and made significant instructional shifts in teaching.

The following timeline identifies the steps the IDOE took towards adoption and implementation of the CCSS.

June 2009

- ✓ Indiana joined the CCSSO initiative of governors and state commissioners/state superintendents of education in 48 states (Texas and Alaska did not participate) to create a common, college- and career-ready set of academic standards for mathematics and English/language arts that could be utilized by any state.

October 2009 – January 2010

- ✓ IDOE worked with Indiana educators to create a comparison, by grade, of Indiana Academic Standards and the first draft of the CCSS for [English/language arts](#) and [math](#).

January and February 2010

- ✓ IDOE staff reviewed and provided two rounds of feedback on the draft standards to CCSSO. Indiana's specific feedback can be found in the [January memo](#) and [February memo](#). These memos were distributed via the IDOE's SAMS/PAMS e-blast to Indiana superintendents and principals.
- ✓ Indiana's Academic Standards were used as exemplars for the drafting of common core standards, and members of IDOE staff were consulted throughout the drafting process.

February 2010

- ✓ IDOE staff released a frequently-asked-questions document ([FAQ](#)) on the department's public website regarding CCSS.

March 2010

- ✓ Indiana's 11-member [State Board of Education](#) (SBOE) reviewed a [CCSS update](#). The SBOE March 3, 2010 meeting [minutes are provided](#) here.
- ✓ CCSSO released [the draft K-12 standards for public comment on March 10, 2010](#). Hoosiers submitted [165 comments](#) during this period. These comments were used in place of an IDOE/public review-led period.
- ✓ IDOE convened a team of educators from K-12 and higher education to review the revised draft standards and provide a third round of feedback to CCSSO on strengths and weaknesses. See the [March memo](#).

April 2010

- ✓ Indiana's [SBOE announced](#) it would vote on adoption of the CCSS in August of 2010. [Indiana Code 20-31-3-1](#) expressly authorizes the SBOE to adopt academic standards for each grade level, K-12.

May 2010

- ✓ The Superintendent of Public Instruction and IDOE staff launched the [Surveys of Enacted Curriculum](#) pertaining to the content and rigor shifts required by the CCSS.
- ✓ In preparing the members of the [Indiana Education Roundtable \(IER\)](#) for their consideration of whether to recommend the adoption of the Common Core Standards, IDOE staff briefed members of the Indiana Education Roundtable (see [agenda](#) and [minutes](#)) on analysis from

Indiana educators and IDOE staff on the quality of the CCSS. [Indiana Code 20-31-3-5](#) expressly authorizes the Indiana Education Roundtable to recommend the adoption of new state standards.

June 2010

- ✓ The Superintendent of Public Instruction noted during the [SBOE meeting](#) that the National Governor's Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers would release the [final version of the CCSS](#) after review of nearly [10,000 comments from states](#) across the country, including Indiana.
- ✓ IDOE staff created [toolboxes](#) for the CCSS, by grade, for math and English/language arts.

July 2010

- ✓ A subsequent analysis was completed by IDOE for the final released CCSS documents using materials provided by Achieve, Inc.,⁴ and the results of this analysis were presented to members of the Education Roundtable and the State Board of Education to assist with each body's respective decisions on adoption of the common core standards.
- ✓ IDOE mathematics and English/language arts specialists were invited to provide an in-depth content analysis of the CCSS, using the [Surveys of Enacted Curriculum](#).
- ✓ Indiana's State Superintendent of Public Instruction selected a professional cabinet of [60 educators](#) to develop grade-specific curriculum maps.

August 2010

- ✓ The [Indiana Education Roundtable recommended](#) the adoption of the CCSS.
- ✓ IDOE staff presented a final [overview](#) of the CCSS to the members of the SBOE.
- ✓ The [SBOE voted unanimously to adopt the CCSS](#) as Indiana's standards for mathematics, English/language arts and grades 6-12 literacy for social studies, history, science and technical subjects.

December 2010

- ✓ Indiana became the first state in the nation to align its teacher preparation standards with the CCSS and to require colleges to incorporate these standards into their pre-service preparation programs. The then-Indiana Professional Standards Advisory Board, in conjunction with the IDOE, approved the new developmental and content standards for educators. Educators from K-12 and higher education participated in the development of the new teacher preparation standards.

School Year 2011-2012 – School Year 2012-2013

- ✓ Transitioning from one set of standards to another requires a great deal of planning and communication to educators, administrators, and families to ensure a smooth transition. The IDOE provided maps, guidance, tools, professional development, and resources to ensure an effective transition from IAS math and E/LA standards to the commensurate CCSS standards. Transitioning to new standards also has a ripple effect on school communities. Curricula, lesson plans, professional development, textbooks, electronic content and instructional materials, locally-developed tests, report cards, and statewide assessments are

⁴ For more information, please visit Achieve's website at <http://www.achieve.org/>.

all linked to standards. For grade-by-grade guidance in English/language arts and mathematics, go to the IDOE's web-page found at:
<http://www.doe.in.gov/achievement/curriculum/resources-implementing-indianas-common-core-standards>.

Implementing HEA 1427

May – June 2013

- ✓ The IDOE has already begun its work to implement HEA 1427. [Attached is the IDOE guidance](#) to schools for the 2013-2014 school year regarding HEA 1427 relating to Common Core State Standards.
- ✓ The IDOE has held three math summits across the state to begin dialogue on math standards, instruction, assessment, use of technology, delivery systems, earned credits, and teacher preparation & professional development – Plymouth (6/17), Huntingburg (6/20), and Indianapolis (6/27).

July 2013 – July 2014

The IDOE is committed to adhering to requirements of HEA 1427, and [IC 20-31-3](#) regarding the adoption of college- and career-ready standards. The IDOE intends to act as a full partner in helping move forward the following:

- ✓ The IDOE will work with the Office of Management and Budget to help prepare the fiscal impact statement due September 1, 2013 (per HEA 1427).
- ✓ State Superintendent Glenda Ritz will appoint an academic standards committee in math prior to October 1, 2013.
- ✓ State Superintendent Glenda Ritz will appoint an academic standards committee in English/language arts prior to October 1, 2013.
- ✓ The IDOE will participate in educational standards hearings held by the Legislative Study Committee by November 1, 2013 (per HEA 1427).
- ✓ The IDOE will hold an electronic public review of proposed standards.
- ✓ The IDOE will assist the SBOE in conducting three (3) required public meetings regarding educational standards (per HEA 1427).
- ✓ The IDOE and the academic standards committees will submit recommendations on college- and career-ready standards to the Indiana Education Roundtable.
- ✓ The Indiana Education Roundtable will make recommendations regarding college- and career-ready standards to the State Board of Education.
- ✓ The State Board of Education will adopt college- and career-ready standards by July 1, 2014.

IDOE looks forward to engaging in rich dialogue with the citizens of Indiana regarding college- and career-ready standards that will help enable Indiana's students to be internationally competitive. The IDOE recognizes that it is not the sole actor in this matter, and that state standards are not developed, approved and implemented by the department alone. Rather, standards come about through collaboration among the IDOE, the public, educators from pre-K through postsecondary, the Education Roundtable and the State Board of Education.

Additional Resources

Common Core State Standards –

<https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov/Standards/PrintLibrary.aspx>

Common Core State Standards Appendix A (Grade Level Appropriate Text/Text Complexity) –

http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_A.pdf

Common Core State Standards Appendix B (Grade Level Appropriate Text/Text Complexity) –

http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf

Common Core State Standards Appendix C (Writing) –

http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_C.pdf

Common Core State Standards Initiative - <http://www.corestandards.org/>

Comparison tables created by the IDOE comparing CCSS, IAS and international [English/language arts](#) and [math](#) standards

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2001 (No Child Left Behind) -

<http://www2.ed.gov/nclb/landing.jhtml>

IDOE documents regarding Common Core State Standards -

<http://www.doe.in.gov/achievement/curriculum/resources-implementing-indianas-common-core-standards>

Indiana's Academic Standards -

<https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov/Standards/PrintLibrary.aspx>

Indiana State Reading List (Grade Level Appropriate Text) –

<https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov/Standards/PrintLibrary.aspx>

TIMSS Framework -

http://timssandpirls.bc.edu/timss2011/downloads/TIMSS2011_Frameworks-Chapter1.pdf